



FGDC Bathymetric Subcommittee Meeting

Wednesday December 18, 1997

Bathymetric Subcommittee Minutes December 1997

Meeting Minutes:

The bathymetric Subcommittee met at the NOAA Office of the Coast Survey, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, Wednesday, December 17, 1997. An agenda is included at the end of the minutes. There were a number of items passed out and a listing of these is also included at the end of the minutes. Individuals requesting copies should contact the Executive Secretary for copies.

Brief Highlights:

1. General FGDC business - attendees were asked to review the accomplishments for 1997 and recommend topics for 1998. To that end, each attendee (and those not able to make the meeting) should complete the attached form and send back to the exec ASAP.
2. General meetings during 1998. The subcommittee met only once during 1997. The sense of the group was that the group should meet more often - possibly as frequently as quarterly, in various locations or in conjunction with a society meeting.
3. Cdr. Sam DeBow gave a briefing and distributed handouts showing NOS survey priorities for the next two years. Two issues were discussed that are of interest to the committee. The first had to do with the requirements for new surveys (since much of the existing data is very old) and NOAA's limited resources for collecting new data especially in areas such as Alaska. The second had to do with the management of hydrographic data and the "delay" from the time a survey is conducted until it is entered into the NGDC data base. Individuals interested in these two subjects can follow up with Cdr. DeBow or Jerry Mills. (Post meeting note from Jerry Mills: there has been a delay in sending surveys to NGDC over the past two years due to software translator problems. This has been resolved and new surveys will be sent within one month of approval.)

would have for shallow water and near shore bathymetric and beachface/profile surveys.

5. Heidi Johnson of NOAA's Office of Ocean Resource Conservation and Assessment (ORCA) gave a briefing on the NOAA/NOS Mapfinder project. The Mapfinder project is an effort by the NOAA/NOS to have a common data search and access system for much of their digital coastal data. Those interested in knowing more about this project can test the Mapfinder at <http://mapfinder.nos.noaa.gov>. Feedback to Heidi or Peter Grose is requested. Questions were raised about extending the Mapfinder to data held by other agencies and the interface with the FGDC Clearinghouse.

6. Peter Grose of ORCA briefly discussed a project he has been working on to develop coastal digital elevation models for several estuaries. He passed out a description of the project and the status of the efforts for various estuaries

7. Cindy Fowler of the Coastal Services Center gave a presentation summarizing the Shoreline Data Standard meeting held in Charleston, S.C., November 3-5. She discussed the topics covered at the workshop, some of the significant issues, and the time line for post workshop activities. (Cindy's briefing will be included in the complete minutes) There are three main topics that came from the shoreline meeting: 1. Prepare a Shoreline Bibliography, 2. Develop a Shoreline Glossary, 3. Develop a Metadata "extension" for shoreline data.

8. Jerry Mills, NOAA's Coast Survey, Hydrographic Surveys Division, gave a presentation on the status of the International Hydrographic Organization's accuracy Standard for Hydrographic Surveys. We discussed some of the issues relating to completing the standard and acceptance by the United States. Jerry felt that the standard would be approved by the IHO next month. The issue was raised about how to deal with the S-44 standard and the "requirement" to prepare a draft standard to be part of the FGDC Accuracy standard. It was decided that there should be a meeting (fairly soon) between the principals from agencies who have an interest in the standard and the individuals responsible for the FGDC accuracy standard. And individuals from the FGDC Standards Working Group. **Millington Lockwood is responsible for calling the meeting.**

9. Kevin Backe briefed the group on the activities of the FGDC endorsed Thematic feature registry project. He gave an overview of the project and explained how the Bathymetric Subcommittee should be involved. Wes Keene gave a demonstration of the process of entering feature information in the registry for coastal/marine type features. We agreed that the subcommittee should enter feature information into the system for the S-57 object catalog and maybe some aspects of shoreline standard. Millington Lockwood is the point of contact for this activity for the Bathy Subcommittee. (Note to Kevin: I am/was a little unclear about the action that came from this discussion - I would appreciate it you could supply me with some verbiage for the minutes so we don't drop the ball)

10. Kevin Backe gave a presentation on the proposal for an NSDI Waterways and Marine Navigation Data Content Standard that he felt was a response to the request from the FGDC and the needs of the community. This was followed by a S-57/REEGIS comparative matrix discussion by Barry Schimpf. Barry discussed the crosswalk between the two standards and his feeling that developing a standard to accommodate each of this would be relatively easy. It was recommended that a working group be formed to examine this issue in more detail and prepare a proposal for a data standard for the FGDC process. **Kevin Backe from ACE/TEC agreed to chair the group** to get it going. Mike Brown from NOAA will be the NOAA point of contact. It was thought that we might have a co-chair designated as the group gets moving. There was a comment that the group must have representatives from the US Coast Guard and the National Imagery and Mapping agency in order to be effective. This group should get together fairly soon

and define their statement of work.

11. Mike Brown gave a demonstration of the project dealing with the development of a ENC product for the Saint Mary's River in the Great Lakes. He described the process of collecting the data, how it is managed and displayed, and the intended applications. This is a prototype/demonstration effort at this time but it is expected that other waterways will be completed in the near future.

12. There was a discussion about possible outreach meetings during the year. There is a ½ day meeting to discuss the shoreline standard at the annual meeting of the ASPRS in Tampa March 30-April 4, 1998. There is also the possibility of a meeting at the Coastal Society in Williamsburg, VA July 9-12, 1998. Attendees were asked to submit other meetings were the Bathymetric Subcommittee should have a presence.

Attendees: Alex Parker, Cindy Fowler, Nancy Towne, Steve Cobb, Larry Parson, Peter Grose, Michael Brown, Kevin Backe, Barry Schimpf, MK Miles, Jerry Mills, Heidi Johnson, Arturo Camacho, Richard Brand, Le Thormalen, Richard Sandy, Sam DeBow, Millington Lockwood, Wes Kleene.

**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Bathymetric Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday December 17, 1997
NOAA Office of Coast Survey
1315 Eastwest Highway Conf. Room 6836
Silver Spring, Maryland**

Agenda

9 am Welcome, Introductions, review agenda, general FGDC Business 1997 Subcommittee Accomplishments Three Things to do in 1998

9:30 Agency Updates

Coast Survey - Sam DeBow

Corps of Engineers- Larry Parsons, others

Others

10:00 NOS Map Finder Demonstration Heidi Johnson/Peter Grose

10:30 Break

10:45 Status of Shoreline Data Standard Cindy Fowler

11:15 Status of Bathymetry/Hydro Accuracy Standard Jerry Mills

11:45 NOS Electronic Nautical Charts (ENC) Program - Mike Brown (This might move to after lunch depending upon progress of the meeting and individuals eating habits).

12:15 Lunch

1:00 Integrated Feature Registry Demonstration -- Kevin Backe

2:00 S-57, TSSDS, REEGIS comparison Matrix - Barry Schimpf

2:30 Discussion of FGDC Standard for Hydrographic "features" based upon previous item and FGDC review of Data Standards

3:00 Outreach meetings and other activities for 1998 (This could be done via EMAIL)

3:30 Adjourn

Handouts -- Available upon request from the Subcommittee Secretary:

Meeting Agenda NSDI Blue Book - A Strategy for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure

Bathymetric Subcommittee 1997 Annual Plan

Form to enter the three activities that the Subcommittee should do in 1998

2 maps of the US showing proposed NOAA hydrographic surveys in 1998 and 1999

NOAA Mapfinder Homepage flyer

Estuarine Bathymetric Project by Peter Grose

Shoreline Data Standard Meeting Summary - Cindy Fowler

List of Changes and Rational for changes of S-44

List of status of FGDC standards

Copies of PPT presentation on the FGDC Thematic Feature Registry

Copies of PPT presentation on the proposed Waterways and Marine Navigation Data Content Standard

Copies of vugraphs of the preliminary analysis and comparative matrix for IHO S-57 and REEGIS

Based upon today's discussion please list three activities that you think the FGDC Bathymetric Subcommittee should undertake during 1998. Put the items in order of importance to your agency/mission. Try to be as specific as possible and indicate a product or measurable outcome. You may also refer to the NSDI Strategy document or last year's Subcommittee Report for guidance.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Name and Organization: _____

Either leave at the end of the day or fax to Millington Lockwood - 301-713-4019

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Last Updated March 30, 1998

Bathymetric Subcommittee Minutes November 1996

The Federal Geographic Data Committees Bathymetric Subcommittee met on Thursday November 14, 1996.

The meeting agenda is included as attachment 1. Attendees are included as attachment 2.

The meeting was opened by Millington Lockwood, Executive Secretary of the Committee. After introductions of attendees and approval of the agenda the meeting began with a brief review of recent activities within the FGDC. There was a discussion of the FGDC/NSDI Strategic Plan and the Operational aspects. Especially the contributions of each of the FGDC Subcommittees. Copies of the 4-goals and objectives of the plan were distributed and reviewed. Agency representatives were requested to review the 4 goals and activities related to the efforts of the Bathymetry Subcommittee and submit any comments to the Exec. Secretary by December 16th.

There was other brief discussion of the ongoing activities of the FGDC Steering Committee. Including the role in the National Performance Review, Secretary Babbitt's longevity, the awarding of the Hammer Award to the FGDC. For those interested in the details of the on going activities of either the steering committee that should check out the minutes that are posted on the FGDC Home page ([get URL](#)).

A copy of the bathymetry SC work plan for FY-95-96 was distributed for comment. A copy is attached. There was accomplishment made on each of the three goal areas and these will be reported on for the 1996 accomplishment report. Agency representatives were asked to submit specific activities they feel the Subcommittee should undertake over the next year. These can be either very specific or general ideas. They should be guided by the 4 goals stated in the November 8, 1996 version of the "Strategy for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure" that was distributed at the meeting. These should be submitted to the Exec. Sect by December 16, 1996.

There was a discussion of the accomplishments during FY-1996. Relating to the bathymetric home page. There is a need to expand the home page to link up directly with data, data sets, proposed surveys, and products that are available for both Bathymetry and shoreline. In this regard, each representative was asked to submit to the Exec. Secretary by December 16th and URL's that they maintain (or are aware of) that point to bathymetric and/or shoreline data. In addition to the URL each submission should also include a brief abstract of the available data. The exec sect. will co-select these into the bathy home page.

We took a 15 minute break at about 10:30.

Agency presentations;

The following agencies made presentation on their programs:

- Captain Andy Armstrong -- NOAA, Nautical Charting,
- Peter Barnes -- USGS Coastal Geology,
- Peter Grose -- NOAA ORCA digital bathymetry and bathymetric modeling techniques, and spatial map finder proposal
- Dick Martino -- NIMA -- reorganization and status of the HYSAS project,
- Cindy Fowler -- NOAA Coastal Services Center in Charleston -- Results of the GIS customer survey and proposal to develop shoreline and bathymetric data for the Southeast.
- Bill Bergen -- COE representatives discussed the Combined CADD\GIS and Surveying and mapping conference and the ongoing efforts to transmit digital sounding data to NOS for application to Nautical charts.

FGDC Framework -- At the present time bathymetric data is a sub-layer of the Elevation layer of the FGDC Framework. Progress on the framework concept has been relatively slow and lacking focus. In order to profile some focus for the framework data sets each agency responsible for a specific data type was asked to prepare a "business plan" to cover their type of data. In the case

of bathymetry (designated as "wet" elevation in the framework model) a plan was prepared and submitted to the Federal Framework Working Group. This plan is currently under review by an interagency forum. Each individual on the FGDC Bathymetric Subcommittee is also asked to review this plan and submit any comments to the Exec. Secretary by January 15, 1997. There are many activities ongoing relative to the framework and those interested should keep in touch with Mike Domaratz via the Framework home page or subscribe to the framework coordination list by contacting Mr. Domaratz.

Notice of Upcoming meetings of interest:

San Francisco meeting on December 6th --
Coastal Zone 1997 meeting in Boston in July 1997
Tri-Services CADD/GIS /FM Symposium /Joint COE Surveying, Mapping, and remote sensing conference in ST. Louis August 18-22, 1997.

Lunch Break:

The second part of the meeting concerned FGDC Standard issues generally and activities of the Bathymetric Subcommittee specifically:

Mr. Richard Hogan and Denise Perecca from the FGDC Standards Working Group gave a brief overview of the activities of the Standards WG (for those interested in details, they can check out the monthly meetings minutes on the WWW), Or read the article in the October edition of the Geo-Info Systems. There are many FGDC standards currently in various shapes and sizes. Those individuals interested in becoming a reviewer on any of the standards should contact either Richard or Denise.

Richard gave a brief overview of the ANCII/ISO process and the relationship between the IHO and the FGDC and participation of various members on various TC211 committees. He highlighted the committees that have US members as chairs and those committees that bathymetric standards might apply.

Following Richard's presentation, Jerry Mills from the NOAA Coast Survey gave a presentation on the status of the S-44 standard for hydrographic survey accuracy. The standard has basically remained unchanged from previous version reviewed by the committee. Jerry stated that it was his hope that the standard would be approved by the IHO Spring of 1997. Following this it is the plan of the FGDC bathymetric subcommittee to submit the standard for approval to the FGDC Standards Subcommittee. In this regard, each agency was asked to review and comment on the proposal prepared by the executive secretary in anticipation of submitting the standard for approval. (Proposal is attached as appendix XXX) Comments should be submitted to the Executive Secretary by January 15th so that the proposal can be submitted to the Standards WG by their February meeting.

Barry Schimpf representing the CADD/GIS technology Center of the Corps of Engineers gave an update of the progress to "model" geographic features between various Corps of Engineers GIS systems and the IHO Object Catalogue known as S-57. Barry went into a number of details regarding this activity and stated that he was nearing completion. The S-57 catalog will be contained within the next release of the TSSDS data model and will be evaluated by the Subcommittee and other interested parties at that time. There was an extended discussion on this subject and it was agreed that a special meeting with a sub-committee of the bathymetric subcommittee meet for an extended period of time (about 1-day) to thoroughly work through this issue and prepare a plan of attack ??? . Barry S. Agreed to put together an issue paper (a point

paper) on this topic and distribute it to all principals for review prior to scheduling a meeting. It is hoped that this point paper would clarify in everybody's mind the specific nature/purpose of the meeting and expected outcomes. Barry promised to have the point paper available for distribution by January 15, 1997.

Tony Niles gave an update on the contract with Coastal Hydrographic to develop a DX-90/S-57 converter? Tony -- Could you give me some more details on this activity and anything for the Subcommittee to follow up on???

Cindy Fowler brought up the issue of shoreline and felt that it was the responsibility of the FGDC to assign the responsibility to work on this data set to a subcommittee or create a new group to do the work. There are a variety of opinions as to which FGDC Subcommittee has responsibility. Given the nature of the shoreline issue, and the various standards that exist, it is a very confusing issue. She felt that there were three general issues/topics that needed to be pursued: 1. Initial capture of data (analog to digital conversion) with accompanying metadata, 2. Shoreline attribution, and 3. Data format.

This seems to be an issue that is being "ignored" by the FGDC -- If anybody would like to add additional information/background/comments regarding the shoreline issue I will be glad to try to get it on the agenda of the FGDC coordination group or the Steering committee

The meeting concluded at approximately 3:30 pm

Next meeting will be held in approximately 6-months (April 1997)

Attendees:

Lockwood, Bergen, Miles, Mann, Niles, Mills, Martino, Sandy, Grose, Seekins, Barnes, Doyle, Fowler, Perecca, Hogan, Taylor and friend???, Schimpf, Armstrong, (did I forget anybody), 2-guys from NOS MCB.

Minutes Prepared by: Millington Lockwood, Executive Secretary
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